



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

***Raised Bill No. 1046***

LCO No. 3879

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:  
(ENV)

***AN ACT CONCERNING INVASIVE SPECIES OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 22a-339g of the general statutes is repealed and  
2 the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2003*):

3 (a) No person, state or municipal agency shall introduce into the  
4 waters of the state, or purchase, sell, import or transport within the  
5 state any species of plant or animal determined to be a nonnative  
6 invasive species of plant or animal as determined by the  
7 Commissioner of Environmental Protection pursuant to subsection (b)  
8 of this section.

9 (b) The Commissioner of Environmental Protection, [shall make  
10 recommendations and take appropriate actions for the control of  
11 nonnative invasive plant species;] after consultation with the  
12 Commissioner of Agriculture, the Director of the Connecticut  
13 Agricultural Experiment Station and the Dean of the College of  
14 Agriculture at The University of Connecticut, shall adopt regulations,  
15 in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to carry out the

16 purposes of subsection (a) of this section. Such regulations shall  
 17 include a listing of plants and animals determined to be nonnative  
 18 invasive species of plants or animals after a finding that such plant or  
 19 animal possesses the following characteristics: (1) Is nonindigenous to  
 20 the state, (2) is naturalized, or occurring without the aid and benefit of  
 21 cultivation or harvesting in an area where such plant or animal is  
 22 nonindigenous, (3) under average conditions has the biological  
 23 potential for rapid and widespread dispersion and establishment in  
 24 the state or region within the state, (4) under average conditions, has  
 25 the biological potential for excessive dispersion over habitats of  
 26 varying sizes that are similar or dissimilar to the site of such plant or  
 27 animal's introduction into the state, (5) under average conditions, has  
 28 the potential for existing in high numbers outside of habitats that are  
 29 highly managed, (6) occurs widely in a region of the state or within a  
 30 particular habitat within the state, (7) has numerous individuals within  
 31 many populations, (8) is able to out-compete other species in the same  
 32 natural community, and (9) has the potential for rapid growth, high  
 33 speed production or reproduction and dissemination and  
 34 establishment in natural communities. In addition to the characteristics  
 35 described in subdivisions (1) to (9), inclusive, of this subsection the  
 36 commissioner may consider other criteria that the commissioner  
 37 deems appropriate, including, but not limited to, the potential of such  
 38 plant or animal's biology and colonization history to become invasive  
 39 in the state. Such regulations shall also include procedures for the  
 40 disposal, control or elimination of any plant or animal deemed to be a  
 41 nonnative invasive species of plant or animal.

42 (c) The commissioner shall, annually, prepare information materials  
 43 for distribution [;] and conduct educational activities [which] that  
 44 address the effects of nonnative invasive plant and animal species  
 45 upon the state, [and prepare and maintain a list] including a listing of  
 46 nonnative invasive plant and animal species. [that will be distributed  
 47 on an annual basis.]

48 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, no person, state

49 or municipal agency shall introduce into the waters of the state, or  
50 purchase, sell, import or transport within the state: (1) Curly leaved  
51 Pondweed (Potamogeton crispus); (2) fanwort (Cabomba caroliniana);  
52 (3) Eurasian water milfoil (Myriophyllum spicatum); (4) variable water  
53 milfoil (Myriophyllum heterophyllum); (5) water chestnut (Trapa  
54 natans); (6) egeria (Egeria densa); or (7) hydrilla (Hydrilla verticillata).

55 (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the  
56 transportation of any nonnative invasive plant or animal for  
57 educational or research purposes.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	October 1, 2003

***Statement of Purpose:***

To protect Connecticut's environment from the harms posed by nonnative invasive plants and animals.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*